

THE NEW HARMONY COLONY

Experiments of Rapp and Owen in Changing Social Conditions Recalled.

A Wealthy Scotchman with a Theory That Failed When Put to the Test—Diverse Elements That Wrecked a Community.

Capt. William Nelson, who fills the responsible position of executive clerk under Governor Hovey's administration, recently visited New Harmony, in Posey county, made famous by the early Christian community headed by George Rapp, and the later socialistic organization founded by Robert Owen. He says the only evidence remaining of its former occupancy by these celebrated associations is the public hall built by Rapp, and used by his followers as a church, and subsequently as an assembly hall by the less religiously-inclined followers of Owen. This building was comparatively recently repaired by the Rappite colony at Economy, Pa., and is now used as a public school. Other than this, and the old cemetery in which a good many of the early enthusiasts and reformers are buried, there are no testimonials to be found in that neighborhood of the two social and religious movements, which at one time promised to revolutionize the existing order of things, and held the attention of intelligent observers on both continents.

Rapp went there in 1815 at the head of a colony of emigrants from the kingdom of Wurtemberg, who had come to this country in 1804. They were schismatics from the Lutheran Church, who had first at Connequessing, Pa., but desiring a warmer soil and larger territory, purchased 30,000 acres and built the original village of Harmony, where the present town of New Harmony now stands. The first village included about 150 houses, about half of which were frame or brick, and the other half of logs. Here the little colony began its work in imitation of the primitive Christians who had all things in common. They held with St. Paul that celibacy is better than marriage, and with his idea, dominating their plan of life, and a fixed system under which all labor was divided and allotted, and the proceeds kept for common use, they made a settlement, if not a social and intellectual success. Rapp was a business man of marked ability as well as a religious enthusiast, and as his work was law among his followers, and no trouble inducing them to follow his plans as marked out for them. The wealth of the community increased in twenty years from \$25 to \$2,000 per capita, more than ten times the average wealth of the country at that time, and in 1825 it numbered more than 1,000 members. About that time Rapp, either tired of the venture or thought he could do better near his original settlement, for he sold out the entire holding to Robert Owen for \$150,000 and moved his people, and a branch of the community, to Economy, Pa., where they and their descendants still flourish.

The sale of the property was effected by Richard Flower, an Englishman sent abroad for that purpose. Robert Owen was a Scotchman who began life as a shop-boy in London, subsequently became interested in Scotch woolen mills, and associating himself with Richard Arkwright, the inventor of the spinning jenny, became one of the largest and wealthiest manufacturers of woollens in the United Kingdom. In 1800 he set out as a social reformer, holding that the vices of men were the results of their unfavorable environment, and that, with proper surroundings, virtue, temperance, kindness and integrity would become universal. His writings attracted the attention of philosophers of his time, but he was cramped for room to give his theories a practical exposition at New Lanark, in Scotland, where his manufactures were located, and when Flower appeared with his proposition of a settlement, he was prepared, with every opportunity for the surroundings of the ideal community contemplated. Owen closed a bargain promptly and set out to realize his dream of a perfect civilization. He came to this country in the latter part of 1825, took possession of his newly acquired possessions and invited the industries and well-disposed of all nations and creeds to occupy the territory, rechristening it by its present name of New Harmony. The invitation was promptly accepted and about 800 people flocked in to take the place of the Rappites, who had been conveyed by steamboats to their Pennsylvania settlement. The property was not turned over outright to the newcomers, and it was as well that it was not, for a good many waifs and strays were included in the list and some of them turned out as a bad black and white lot. Nevertheless, the settlement was each inhabitant was given credit at a public store for an amount which a committee adjusted his or her labor to be worth. There was a school at which 130 pupils were maintained at public expense, a good band of music was employed, and three meetings were held a week, one to discuss the government of the society, one for vocal and instrumental music, and one for the purpose of having a dance. All these arrangements were calculated to lead up to a perfected state in which a majority of things should be held in common, labor limited to the amount necessary to provide proper sustenance, and the balance of life devoted to intellectual and moral investigations.

Naturally a large majority of the cranks and irrational geniuses of the country swarmed in on the new community. Robert Dale Owen, the son of the founder, in his autobiography, tells of a man named Page, whom he met when he first came out from England, to visit the settlement, who said he was "the Page of nature," and wore a suit of green as a proper livery for an individual occupying his position. His hat and shoes were also green, and when he pulled out his credentials they were found to be written on green paper. He apologized for using black ink, but said that green ink on green paper would be indistinguishable, and that black would serve to suggest the mournful things with which nature was encumbered. There were others, however, among the people of the new community whose names were associated with active and useful efforts in literature and science. Thomas Say, of the Academy of Natural Science of Philadelphia, and Charles Lesur, a distinguished French naturalist, and Gerard Troost, a German geologist, were connected with it, and other earnest men and women, inspired by Owen's enthusiasm, joined their fortunes with it. These members probably felt little at home with some of the colonists, who turned out in storms, carrying lightning rods "to give the Almighty a chance to hit them," but for the first year there was no open defection. Then the trouble began. Some of the members started to form a new community, and started an opposition town two miles from the first one. Later, applicants for places grew to be so unsatisfactory that a committee of twenty-five was appointed to consider applications. Mr. Owen retaining a veto on admissions whenever disposed to do so. The members were divided into conditions, probationary and on trial members until it could be demonstrated that two-thirds were able to govern themselves. Separate communities increased until there were three. Known as New Harmony, Maclurea and Feiba Peven, the latter having some mysterious reference to the latitude and longitude of the point where it was located. By this time Owen's funds were running short, and there was an era of retrenchment and reform. May 27, 1830, notice was issued to outsiders that everything was full, and that no more impecunious would-be joiners need apply. On the 25th of August, of that year, the committee of twenty-five was abolished, three doctors were appointed, the sale of ardent spirits was prohibited, and a good many persons left the Community during the fall. At the opening of the next year Owen began selling lots to individuals, and shortly afterward returned to Scotland. There was a short-lived boom in corner property, and the Community as it faded out of the town as completely as if it had never existed. Fifteen years afterward, when a traveler named McDonald visited the place, he was warned not to speak of socialism, as it was unpopular, and the same state of feeling, after the lapse of half a century, is still prevalent in the Community.

The Game Market.

The market has been well supplied with game since Oct. 1, and the receipts have been the largest ever known in the last half of October, especially of quail and rabbits. Yesterday quails were offered at \$1 and rabbits at 75 cents a dozen. Other game held at about the same low range of prices. The weather, though, has greatly lessened the demand, and accumulated stock has spoiled. Quails, rabbits and hares are legally saleable in New York, and that opens up a market for which commission men are daily cutting out game in condition for shipment. Within the last few years Indianapolis has become about as important a shipping point for game as for poultry.

PHASES OF DRAMATIC WORK

Novelties in Plays the Local Managers Announce for the Theaters This Week.

They Include Several Good Attractions in Domestic and Melodrama, with Farce-Comedy to Make People Laugh—Stage Gossip.

William Haworth's new four-act domestic drama, "Ferncliff," will be given its first presentation in this city at English's Opera-house, to-morrow night, with E. H. Vanderfelt in the leading character, supported by a company of competent people. The play had a long run at the Union-square Theater, New York, and the press of that city had many complimentary things to say about the performance, which has also received favorable mention in the cities where it has been presented since the company began its tour. The drama bears a strong resemblance to "Held by the Enemy," and it is claimed, possesses all the excellence of that play. It is melodramatic, but in no sense sensational. The plot is based upon incidents of the war, but the horrors of the battle-field being introduced only in speech. The story is interesting, simple in its development, and altogether pleasing. Mr. Vanderfelt is an actor of recognized ability. The author, Mr. Haworth, is also a member of the cast. He will be remembered as having a prominent part in "Held by the Enemy," when it was last seen here. The engagement will be for three nights, and a matinee on Wednesday.

Levis Morrison, an actor of fine reputation, will appear at the Grand Opera-house, Thursday night, presenting his great success, "Faust," in which he will be seen as Mephisto. Mr. Morrison has made a decided hit in the character, and the press has bestowed the highest praise upon his performance. The play itself is a strong one, and has the merit of at least being out of the common line of dramatic productions. The part assumed by the star gives him a good opportunity for the display of his peculiar talent, and, according to all accounts, he makes the most of it. The company supporting him is made up of very serviceable people, and the performance will, no doubt, be above the usual standard. The engagement is for three nights.

At the Park Theater, Charles Loder, the well-known German dialect comedian, will be the attraction this week, presenting his musical farce, "Hilarity." It gives the company a wide range for the introduction of much interesting material in the way of songs, dances, sketches, comical stage business and other specialty features. Mr. Loder is a clever comedian, and has surrounded himself with people who are competent to give a complete and entertaining concert in front of the theater every evening, and a street parade at 12 o'clock each day.

The Misses Deaves, two bright and popular young comedienne, who have achieved considerable success in their new play called "Chaos Flat," will make their first appearance in this place at the Grand Opera-house on Tuesday night. The Misses Deaves have been seen in Indianapolis several times in other characters, and are very clever in their line. "Chaos Flat" is a musical comedy drama especially adapted to the two stars, and their performance has been highly commended. The company includes several actors of recognized ability, and the management promises a bright and entertaining attraction. The engagement is for two nights and Wednesday matinee.

Miss Sarah Rounds, a talented and versatile reader, from Detroit, will give a dramatic recital to-morrow evening at Y. M. C. A. Hall, under the auspices of the Training School of Expression. She will be assisted by Miss Angela Maxam in musical numbers. The following programme will be given: Piano solo, selected; "The Daisies," Anon.; piano solo, Barby; by Miss Angela Maxam; "The Daisies," Noble; "Parental Discipline," Baker; piano solo, "Paranette," Nicole; "Jack, the Fisherman," Phelps; "The Election of '73," by Mrs. Noble; "How the Froggie Got to Sleep," Nalling; "On the Train," Cross.

Stage Gossip.

Wesley Sisson will go on the road as manager of the Salem Opera-house.

The Chinese theater in New York was not a success, and has closed.

Minnie Madden has made a great success of her new play, "Featherbrain."

Mr. John H. Garrison, business manager of the Lewis Morrison company, is in the city.

Allice Fisher and Mrs. Sol Smith have been added to the Booth-Medjeska company.

Corra Tanner's play, "Fascination," reached its 30th performance last week in New York.

John and Harry Kernell will unite their interests once more and go on the road together.

Mr. Wilson Barrett's business at the Boston Theater has not been as good as was expected.

Percy Weadon has been engaged to go ahead of the Fanny Davenport company this season.

Bill Nye and James Whitecomb Riley are droning the powdered houses in their lecture and readings.

Mary Anderson has returned to London from the highlands of Scotland, very much improved in health.

"Mr. Barnes, of New York," opened at the California Theater, San Francisco, on Monday night to nearly \$1,100.

Mrs. Leslie Carter will not make her debut on the stage until Easter, as she cannot complete all her preparations until that time.

Ezra Kez-dall is booked for an early appearance at English's Opera-house. He has a new play, which he alternates with "A Pair of Kids."

Nat C. Goodwin's new play, "The Book maker," which he has been presenting in the West for some weeks past, was very favorably received on its first presentation at Hooley's, in Chicago.

Henry Irving's revival of Watts Phillips' old play, "The Merchant of Venice," is generally conceded by London play-goers and critics to be one of the most notable performances of melodrama ever seen on the English stage.

New York, it is said, is having the most wonderful theatrical season on record; with Booth and Medjeska at the Broadway Theater, Jefferson and Florentine the Star, Salvini at Palmer's, and the Kendals at the Fifth Avenue. They are all drawing packed houses.

"Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" will be the subject of Rev. Robert Nourse's lecture, Wednesday evening next, at Plymouth Church. Mr. Nourse's review of this famous novel of Robert Louis Stevenson is said to be one of the finest on the subject now in the public domain. Course tickets are now on sale at Baldwin & Co.'s.

The old saying that "nothing succeeds like success" finds an apt illustration in the operations of the Indianapolis Fair. S. Taylor, two of the most successful managers in the theatrical field, from their "Dark Secret" venture alone they claim to have cleared over \$100,000, and they are still netting from this same play an average of over \$1,000 per week.

Ellen Terry is said to suffer great anxiety whenever she undertakes a new part, and she can scarcely bear anyone to speak to her on the days preceding the first performance. It is her habit to spend the best part of her time in driving far from the place where she can feel secure against the intrusion of visitors. The only person whose company is welcome to her on these occasions is her daughter, Alice.

"Hamlet" was first presented in the city of New York on the evening of the 26th of November, 1761, at "The New Theater in

THE FIELD OF LABOR

What Retail Dealers Say of the Working-man's Sure and Profitable Custom.

An hour spent among retail merchants and dealers of all kinds in the city is sufficient to convince one that they have no better or more sensible customer than the laboring man. Better because, according to the merchant's own statements, his pay is always sure, and more sensible because he displays, as a general rule, excellent judgment in the selection of what he buys. This, of course, is especially noticeable in houses which handle the necessities of life.

Chappel Street"—now Beek man street, near Nassau—the younger Lewis' first appearance in America in the autumn of 1759 at one of the Philadelphia theaters, where he played the title part in "Faust." He was a versatile actor, and was of the stage in this country for over fifty years, and always popular.

"What is the reason for this?"

"It is, to my mind, simple enough, for it all hinges upon higher appreciation of the value of a dollar. Let me give you an instance that happened right here in my store the other day. Over there you see I have a counter where I sell meat. Two men came in shortly after 6 o'clock with their dinner pails in their hands and went up to the counter. You could see they were day-laborers from their clothing and appearance. One said he wanted a good round steak, but the other called for a cheaper grade. 'I can't afford to buy the kind you are getting,' remarked the latter, 'for it comes much higher than a fair market price is the motto I go by.' 'I have often noticed that the majority of such men believe the same thing,' I have customers to-day who buy better food and pay more for it than others who make five times the wages of the men to whom I referred.'

Another dealer questioned on the subject was a well-known clothier. "The greater number of laboring men," he said, "buy ready made clothing because it is easily and quickly obtained. And even a tailor-made suit would hardly be the thing for a workman to wear every day. I have a great many regular customers who buy their working clothes of me, but who wear a good tailor-made suit for special wear."

"Do such men generally buy the best quality of goods?" the reporter asked.

"Yes, they do. As a rule, they all better clothes, taking everything into consideration, to the laboring classes than I do to the balance of my trade. And another thing which can be said to their credit, is that they seldom ask us to lower our prices. While a great many ask us for a little time, for payment, it is rarely the case that one complains of a price being too high."

Labor Notes.

A new machine wraps oranges.

Pullman employs over 11,000 persons.

New Haven school teachers are organized.

In India the government fixes railroad rates.

The National Association of Stationary Engineers has now 4,311 members.

Of the 9,000,000 Germans outside of Germany, 7,000,000 are now in the United States.

At Cincinnati the shoe manufacturers declare they haven't a union man in their employ.

In France laborers work eleven and twelve hours a day and have a half day off on Sunday.

The plasterers, tailors and some other trades in Salt Lake City, U. T., have the nine-hour system.

The Wisconsin State Bureau of Labor Statistics is this year making a special investigation of the building trades.

The Hebrew Shirt-makers' Union, of New York, has employed a lawyer on salary to manage the disputes of its members with their employers.

At the convention of the Journeymen Brevets' National Union the country was divided into districts to promote the work of organization.

The Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators has 7,000 members enrolled in 136 local unions. The receipts last year were \$6,400, expenses, \$5,320.

English workmen work fifty-four hours per week, and have a Saturday half holiday. They start at 6 o'clock, and take a half hour for breakfast at 4.

The organizations of restaurant waiters, in New York, will hold a conference for the purpose of adopting measures to prevent an influx of foreign contract waiters during the International Exposition.

The New York Protective Association of San Francisco, Cal., is a flourishing organization, having over 230 members in good standing. The association is now on a firm footing financially, having nearly \$25 in the treasury.

There have now been three conferences between representatives of the Knights of Labor and the Federation of Labor. The questions at issue were under debate at the time they were brought before the national conventions of both bodies.

The Indianapolis division of the Order of Railway Conductors will hold a meeting in this city, at 12:30 o'clock, when important business is to be acted upon. This division now has 140 members in good standing.

At a meeting held in Newark by the legislative committee of the New Jersey Federation of Trade and Labor Unions, it was resolved that every candidate for the State Legislature should be asked to pledge himself to vote for a Saturday half-holiday law and for the Australian election system. A resolution was adopted in favor of a law compelling all mine owners to pay their miners every fortnight.

Key West, Fla., has 21,000 people, and all live by the cigar-making industry, in which 5,000 men and women are employed. The scale paid runs from \$15 to \$40 per month, and a fair maker can make at least 1,000 per week. Each employe is allowed to smoke as many cigars as he pleases while at work, and he can take five cigars every day when quitting. They gained an advance of \$1 per thousand last February, and on demanding another increase on a smaller cigar they were all locked out. There are 2,000 Cubans, whites, mulattoes and colored.

A Breeze from the Wabash.

Terr Haute Express.

There is much to be seen in Indianapolis, including, of course, the egotism of the people, that protrudes itself on the view of all visitors. However, the visitors from the other American cities had visited South Bend, and they will not leave the State with only the Indianapolis impression of Indiana. In many respects Indianapolis remains still New York. The latter city believes that all things should come to it, and forgets that it is no longer the big place of the United States as it was many years ago. Indianapolis as a junction of many railroads and as the capital of the State, had come to believe that it was something more than a capital city and a railway junction. In the course of the year, the State falls on it, the most provincial of cities will realize that it is not Indiana.

Chicago's First Thought.

The Crown Prince of Greece and Princess Sophie of Prussia were married yesterday. Being royal persons, one marriage wasn't enough, so they were married twice. The ceremony occupied an hour, and the second something less. They ought to be as fast and married by this double knot. But suppose they fail to get along and want a divorce. To them an ever from this emphatic contract! Will two divorces be necessary?

AMUSEMENTS.

ENGLISH'S OPERA-HOUSE

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 4, 5 and 6. Matinee Wednesday at 2 p. m.

The Latest Union-Square Theater Success,

A Comedy-Drama in four acts, by Wm. Haworth, entitled

"FERNCLIFF"

A PICTURE OF HOME LIFE.

The Company: E. H. VANDERFELT, AN ACTUAL INCIDENT.

JOHN WOODWARD, Miss BELLE FLOHR, Wm. HAWORTH, Miss FANNIE MARSH, JOHN E. MAHER, Miss PERCELA WARREN, HENRY PIERSON, Little MAMIE MOORE, And Little ANGIE OGDEN.

Note.—The action of the drama is supposed to take place during the civil war, 1863 to 1865, at Ferncliff, near Providence, R. I.

Prices—75, 50, 35, 25 and 15 cents.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7, 8, 9. Special Saturday Matinee.

ENGAGEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.

The Renowned American Actor,

LEWIS MORRISON

AS "MEPHISTO,"

In his sublime scenic and dramatic production of

FAUST.

A performance absolutely without a parallel in the history of the American stage.

The marvelous "Broken Scene," the pinnacle of stagecraft.

Advance sale will begin Wednesday morning.

Prices—\$1, 75c, 50c and 25c.

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Two Nights Only, Wednesday Matinee, Commencing TUESDAY, Nov. 5.

Engagement Extraordinary! Great Musical Comedy Event!

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MISSSES DEAVES,

— (ADA AND RILLIE) —

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"CHAOS FLAT."

Grand Scenic Effects! Beautiful Costumes! New and Original Music! Everything New, Refined and Elaborate.

Prices, \$1.00, 75c, 50c, 25c.

THE PARK THEATER

The most popular place of amusement in the State. Week of Nov. 4. Matinee Daily. A world of fun. The eminent German dialect comedian, vocalist and dancer,

CHARLES A. LODER.

— IN THE LATEST LAUGHABLE MUSICAL ABSURDITY —

"HILARITY"

Presented by a corps of Great Comedians, rewritten for this season by Scott Marble, with New and Beautiful Songs, New and Artistic Dancing, New and Catchy Music, New and Funny Sayings. A host of pretty girls in the "Hilarity" and "Hilarity" orchestra and "Hilarity" band will give a grand street parade at 10:30 o'clock, also a grand concert in front of the Theater at 7 p. m.

PRICE—Night, 10c, 20c, 30c. Matinee, 10c and 20c.

THE THIRD ANNUAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW AND FLORAL EXHIBITION

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Sunday evening, complimentary; Tuesday evening, admission, 25c.

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

WEDNESDAY EVE, NOV. 6,

In the Dollar Lecture Course, at

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Nov. 20, Robert McIntyre. Dec. 4, Harvard Quartet. Dec. 11, F. H. Bailey. Dec. 18, English Girls and Madrigals.

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